

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**INTERFACE FOR CREATING PRIVACY POLICIES FOR
THE P3P SPECIFICATION**

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A graphical user interface tool is provided to help users design privacy policies. The interface allows the user to group, manipulate, and describe the data used by a Web site. A data elements portion of the interface allows the user to view predefined data elements and to create additional data elements. The properties of the data elements may be viewed and modified. The data elements are displayed according to the hierarchical schema defined by the P3P specification. A groups portion of the interface allows the user to create groups of data elements that share common properties, such as how the recipient will use the data. A group may be populated with instances of data elements from the data elements portion of the interface. A policy portion of the interface displays descriptions of the policy in several forms. Statements in the policy are formed from the groups in the groups portion of the interface. The policy may be generated dynamically each time a group is created or a data element is added to a group or modified. A P3P policy may also contain global information, such as the name and address of the organization posting the policy. This information is presented and edited through a policy properties dialog.